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BOOK REVIEWS

A History of Rome for High Schools and Academies. By GEORGE WILLIS BOTSFORD, PH.D., Instructor in the History of Greece and Rome in Harvard University. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1901.

RUN in a similar mold to the author's *History of Greece*, this Roman history will surely find a wide use in our preparatory schools. True to the demand of the day, it does not end abruptly with the death of Caesar (How and Leigh), with the Battle of Actium (Shuckburgh), or with any artificial boundary, but carries Roman civilization through the long period of decline over the three centuries of lapse in the West to the revived empire of Charles the Great. To have accomplished this successfully within the limits of 350 pages, means, of course, much condensation and many omissions, with constant attention to proportion and the general impression. On the general plan, as on his success in carrying it out, Dr. Botsford certainly deserves congratulation. He has given us a stimulating book which brings home to the student with great force the Roman background of our modern life. Vividness is often gained by citations from Livy, Plutarch, etc., or the *Res Gestae* of Augustus. In the translation of these a Frouadian freedom occasionally shows itself as (p. 92 fin.) where Val. Max. IV, iv, 11 (sic), is singularly contorted. Suetonius' account of the end of Nero is not in agreement with the text (p. 231) which claims to rest upon it. Sallust (p. 180 fin.) is freely handled, and *incredibilia* rendered *romantic* — a most un-Roman word! Open to criticism in the same spirit are the quotations on pp. 18, 72, 105, 106, 144 fin., etc., and a statement from (?) Appian, p. 177 top. Carelessness in English occurs but rarely, as p. 199 top, *lay* for *laid*; p. 154 top, *rostrum*: p. 29, *fine public buildings*; while p. 340 med., *board* seems out of keeping with the luxury there described.

Misprints are few in number: P. 75, *taibuta* for *tributa*; p. 92 fin., *dele* 6 in the reference to Val. Max. (cited above); 288 med., *è* for *à*; 352 top, insert *Boissier*; p. 61, l. 6, for *Campania* read *Lucania*. The modern word *Sabina* (p. 4) is confusing to the student. Of inaccuracies, it seems to the reviewer that an unfortunate number have escaped the proof readers. Thus the military tribunes are spoken of (p. 51) as "staff-officers." Who is the student to suppose in command of the legion? In the story of Duilius (p. 99 fin.) "from the senate" has been substituted for *a cena* of the texts. Hirtius and Pansa (p. 196 fin.) were not both killed in battle at Mertina. The Pantheon (pp. 212, 213) figures in the text as the work of Agrippa, while the footnote in correcting a false impression (why given?) does scant justice to Chedanne and the certain evidence of brick-stamps. "Brick" (p. 214) means, of course, "brick-faced concrete." On p. 232, l. 6, "nominated" should be "had already nominated." Titus' arch is said (235 fin.) to be his own work in the face of inscription and apotheosis. P. 356, line 22, for "cover" read "covered." That eight new tribes were added to the thirty-five after the Social War should not be stated (p. 167). "Tribal officers" (p. 177 fin.) is misleading for *tribuni aerarii*. Pompey's *curia* (p. 195) is wrongly called a "senate hall." On p. 235 the old number of seats in the Colosseum is still retained, while (p. 346) a most conservative figure is given for the Circus Maximus.

To speak of the older Roman temples as "in the Greek style" (p. 91), is surely an unintentional lapse. Equally misleading is (p. 200) the mention of Nepos' *Lives* as "parallel biographies." That the living Augustus received divine honors even in Italy, should not be overlooked on p. 214 (fin.), where the contrary is a necessary inference from the text.

To speak (p. 223) of the rule as passing to "another family" after Caligula, is sure to result in misunderstanding. Vespasian appears (p. 233) as procurator of Judea, instead of consular legate; Civilis (p. 232) as "aspiring to the imperial office"(!); Agricola (p. 238) as building a "frontier wall" in Britain; M. Aurelius (p. 254) as born in Spain; Athila (p. 308) as turning back from Rome. Is there any proof that he even crossed the Po? Tiberius, Nero, and Domitian (pp. 221, 222, 230, 238) are set in the most favorable light, while the character of Seneca and the veracity of Tacitus (pp. 229, 257) are duly blackened. An occasional indirectness tempts the critic, as indefiniteness here and omission there, or imagination (p. 27 top, p. 212 fin.) provoke the blue pencil. But to lengthen such a list would convey quite a wrong idea of the reviewer's opinion of an excellent work, admirably adapted to its purpose, but rather hurriedly passed through the press. Good maps abound, though marred by not a few misprints and an occasional slip. The body of the book is followed by an outline of the constitution, some suggestive studies on the different chapters, a most useful table of events by periods, and careful bibliographies. From the last we would fain see *Quo Vadis* expelled for its sins against the Latin language, its ignorances of Roman topography, its negligences of every sort. The numerous illustrations are in the main fresh and attractive. To the lover of Roman roads it does give pain, however, to see a photograph of the modern *Appia Nuova* doing duty as the Appian Way (p. 57). The *Capo Miseno* (p. 346), as seen from near Baiae, is called Baiae itself. Nîmes is badly represented by the "Baths" (p. 265), a poor and misleading substitute for its veritable Roman ruins. The helmet picture on p. 46 is that of a gladiator! The "Palace of Theodoric" (p. 311) is now known to be of Lombard construction. Portraits are sometimes questionable, and quotation marks do not quite apologize for the insertion of now discarded likenesses (e. g., "Seneca," p. 241). In spite of these and other infelicities, the illustrations have received far more care than is usual in books of this class. In the index the accents show occasional slips, as in one or two cases the ill-advised effort to correct good usage, e. g., Panthéon, Quirinal; and also Sóphia, Voléro, Pávia—mere misprints, let us hope.

FRANK GARDNER MOORE

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

The Foundations of Botany, pp. 412; with A Flora of Northern and Central States, pp. 257. By JOSEPH Y. BERGEN. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1901.

A SECOND text-book on botany has appeared from the pen of Mr. Bergen, of the English High School, Boston. It is evident that the *Elements of Botany*, which came out several years ago, has yielded richly the experience which a good and successful text-book gives its author in the field of a developing and shifting science. *The Foundations of Botany* responds well to the call that has arisen since the publication of the *Elements* for the presentation of the ecological side of the subject. This is the greatest change that one notes, and the most marked improvement over the earlier text. Another gain is the enlargement of the wholly inadequate systematic treatment